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by

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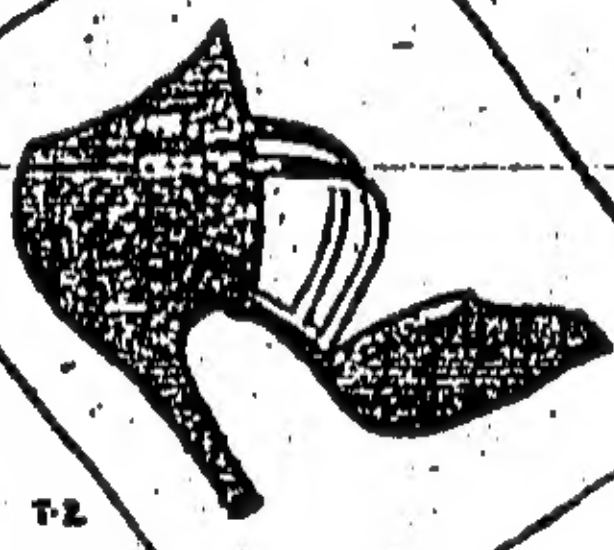
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c/o Bank of East Asia, Ltd.Warm
Weather
WearREADY for holiday wear and
for warm weather are
delightful sun dresses, of which
this is one. Pink cotton is
used for the dress which is
zipped up in front, and gathered
over the bustline. The skirt is
composed of flared box pleats.
A cover-up jacket is of navy
cotton with a pink collar and
border. It extends to the
waist in back and fastens under
the bust in front.THE NYLON BLOUSE was a
distinct novelty not so very
long ago. Now it is becoming
increasingly available and ap-
pears in both dressy and
tailored types, in sheer and in
nylon crepe. This one is a
dainty affair with a tiny double
collar and puffed sleeves that
end in little cuffs. It has an
insert of embroidery down the
front which is pin-tucked from
the shoulders. The smart shoe
goes in for side-swept lines with
a double strap to accent the
slanting cut. The straps swoop
over to the high side where
they are buckled.NEW HOSE
COLOURSINTERESTING displays appear
in some New York depart-
ment stores. Featured are
gray-blue hose with navy and
coral bags, bells and gloves;
tawny shades combined with
polished calf accessories in
rust and palest chamolins with
matching shoes and gloves.
Other cases display sheer
stockings with pastel hosiery
cases, and matching lingerie.
Bridal white with lace and
pearl clocks in draped over-
pearl-filled jewel cases and
surrounded by lace handker-
chiefs, garters and satin slip-
pers in tulle-lined windows.The natural complements,
stockings with low-cut, foot
reinforcements or none at all
and low-cut pumps and strap
sandals are shown together in
both shoe and hosiery depart-
ments.

WOMANSENSE

Your spare room
—and decoration

By ELEANOR ROSS

BUILDING costs are still
so high, that, when
working out a house, usual-
ly one by one, all the
cherished ideas have to be
abandoned, and the plan re-
duced to absolute essentials.
But we are glad that more
than one homeowner we
know has, included in the
plan, one extra basic room,
for a house, however well
run and planned, reduced to
the barest essentials so far
as rooms are concerned, is
rarely the happy, well-run
place it should be.

It's basic

That extra room, a small basic
room is all it need be, can be so
many things to so many people
that in the long run its cost is
more than justified. With good
planning, it works out as an
upstairs sitting room, a work-
shop, a study spot, a haven for
a convalescent, and a guest
room. With wise furnishing, and
without a large outlay, the
room can be used for any and
all these purposes, and always
look alike and smart. Box
springs on legs and those
splendid sectional furniture and
storage units make this task a
simple one. After all the func-
tional pieces are installed, a
clever use of colour and some
pretty accessories give the room
an individual flavour.In the daytime, and when not
in use as a bed, the box-spring
unit or the sofa beds add up toa comfortable sofa. Sectional
commodore or chests and shelves,
at either end take care of storage
space and act as end tables and
night tables, too. Have plenty
of outlets here for necessary
illumination, an extra radio, or
heating pad.
A useful item in such a room
would be one of those dresser
and chest jobs with a let-down
desk section, now coming into
the stores. A nice one we saw
even had a fluorescent light
installed. Place sectional book
shelves and cabinets either side
of such a piece and there you
have the space for clothes, for
books, games and other equip-
ment.A drop leaf table won't take
up much space. A small, easy
chair and a group of stools will
take care of seating accommo-
dations. A useful item might well
be one of those regular luggage
racks which doubles as a chair
with the aid of a cushion, or
becomes a low table by adding
a substantial tray.
Despite all this, promises to
yourself not to go in for
"dust collectors." It usually
doesn't take long for the new
housewife to acquire good look-
ing teapots, beautiful bits of
glassware, unusual plates, inter-
esting little knick-knacks and
silver, even if these were not
among the wedding presents.
If nicely disposed, these
pieces, even if they are dustcatchers can do much to add
beauty to a room, especially if
used in a dining room. Any of
these can be the key to neces-
saries for the dining room or
that part of the living room
dedicated to dining.

Pottery and China

Of course pottery and fine
china should not be mixed, and
the same goes for metals. All
silver, all brass, all pewter, all
steel plate is right, but not a
conglomeration. Pottery and
glassware—if the glassware is
casual—no nice, but balance is
important here as in your living
room furniture.If you have a dining room,
give it some nice pictures. Fruit
and flower still-life pieces are
most suitable, especially if hung
where diners can see them. Any
good landscape or seascape is
good company to meals, as are
bird pictures. But keep away
from animal pictures. Portraits,
especially of the ancestral
variety, have an affinity for din-
ing room walls. A number of good
small, prints or paintings or
photographic prints can be
hung—in groups or alone—
don't feel that every available
wall spot has to be filled.

Mirror effect

A large mirror is a nice wall
treatment over the buffet, serv-
ing chest or fireplace, and adds
spaciousness. But don't hang a
mirror where diners can view
themselves while eating. The
presence of a mirror into which
diner must look when he or
she is not looking at the diner
directly, oppresses and can be a
source of great discomfort.THE LONG & SHORT
OF A PROBLEM

By HERMAN N. BUNDESEN, M.D.

PARENTS worry when the
child's growth over-
shoots or fails to keep pace
with the schedule which
seems to them to be normal.
Very often they come to
the doctor in the hope that
he can supply a magic pill
which will slow or speed
growth.We do have some gland-
ular substances, called
hormones, which will have
such an effect, particularly
in cases where the stature
is overshort, but the wise
doctor will use them spar-
ingly.Indeed, he will not use them
at all unless he is first convinced
that their lack is holding the child
back.

Causes

As a matter of fact there are
many other factors which may
be responsible for short stature.
The first of these is heredity.
Short parents are likely to have
short children. Moreover, the
child of tall parents will grow
faster than the child of short
parents. Occasionally, a child
will seem to be late in starting
the upward growth which ordi-
narily begins in the early teens,
but this is only because he hap-
pens to be a late-maturing
individual. When the maturing
period comes, he will make up
for lost time, and thus treat-
ment with glandular extracts is
inadvisable.It has been found that the
giving of testosterone will
cause a speeding up of growth.
However, it is impossible to
know whether this speeding
up adds anything to the ultimate
height, or whether it simply
brings the child more quickly to
the height he would have
reached naturally. Then, too,
one must consider whether or
not such treatment may have
harmful effects. Hence, there
is no advantage in speeding up
growth in such children if they
are going to reach normal
height without the treatment.There is no point at all in
treating with glandular ex-
tracts the child who is short
because of the ravages of heart
disease or poor diet. In thefirst instance, the disease itself
should receive attention; in the
second, the diet should be
changed to give the youngster
the amount and kind of food he
needs to grow on.Where shortness is due to
lack of secretion from the
thyroid gland, the giving of this
substance is, of course, in order.

Rapid Growth

Parents are always concerned
about girls who seem to be
growing too fast. This rapid
growth occurs at the maturing
period of girls just as it does in
boys. Parents must remember
that this rate of growth will not
continue indefinitely. Tall girls
should learn to carry their
stature with poise.It is true that in an occasional
rare instance there may be some
disturbance of the pituitary
gland, which is responsible for
abnormal height. To determine
when such a condition is pre-
sent a thorough study by a
specialist in glandular disorders
may be necessary. Unfor-
tunately, however, in these
cases there is not a great deal
which can be done to relieve
the condition.If there is concern over the
child's stature, the best thing
to do is to seek the physician's
advice. He will advise as to
whether or not any abnormal
condition is present and, if so,
what treatment would be most
effective.

The Fichu Neckline



By ALICE ALDEN

THIS is one of the best sea-
sons a year for beautiful
clothes. They are lovely and
wearable and have the added
overtones of beautiful fabrics
and becoming lines. These
facts are particularly true when
applied to prints. Anthony
Blotta uses a tiny and charm-
ing birds-in-flight print in beguilingchampane, and black for an
attractive frock, simply but dis-
tinctly styled. The fichu
neckline, fashionably deep, is
edged with variegated-pinked
trills, finished with a deep
laffeta-lined bow. The skirt is
moderately flared. How nice to
have dresses that are simple yet
beguiling!

The 'Little Girl Coif'

A close-to-the-head hairdo always looks neat, says the New York hair-
dresser who designed this coiffure. It's called the "Little Girl Coif."

By HELEN FOLLETT

PERFECT grooming is a badge
of distinction. Unless a
woman is dainty and fastidious,
mindful of every detail of get-
up, expensive raiment won't
mean a thing. She will trail
her costly feathers in the dust
and "look like that!" You know
the kind we mean. Just
thrown together. Neatness and
order gone with the wind.It is the clean-cut look that
counts these days. Make-up
laid on carefully, colouring just
right, artifice not advertised by
bloomy rouge spots, too vivid
lipstick. Coiffure of the mode
with not a single hair out of
place. It is a pleasure to look
at a woman who looks like
that.Hair requires homework and
a knack of managing the
strands. Some women look
grand when they emerge from
the beauty shop after the finger
is waved. But they can't touch
their locks without throwing
wave lines out of form. The
twitch next day looks like a
month's.Women who are completely
frustrated when it comes to
putting their hair in an attrac-
tive pattern would do well to
have the short cut that can be
easily managed. There is the
cherub curl, for instance. The
hair is three inches long all
over the head. The cold perma-
nent gives a wave right up
to the scalp. After the sham-
poo a pin wave may not be
necessary. You sweep a comb
through your hair while it is
still slightly moist, give it an
upward shove here and there
and ringlets form. It is as
simple as that. Only disadvan-
tage; if you are a demon hair-
grower, you will have to have
a permanent every three or four
months.

Let's Eat

BY
IDA BAILEY ALLEN

A VERSATILE MEAT

THE Chef was perplexed.
"Why don't people like
mutton?" he asked. "It is a very
fine, delicate meat.""It is probably the smell of
the lamb fat," said the
waiter. "But that's easily fixed. Just
cut most of it off before cook-
ing—and season the lamb well."
After dinner he had a talk
with the mess-sergeant. It
seemed they had been
serving the lamb or
sometimes boiling it. And as
there was a considerable supply
on hand, it had been served too
often with insufficient variation.

Versatile Meat

"But lamb is one of the most
versatile meats," exclaimed
the Chef. "It can be prepared in
so many ways, and each will
taste different. In some swanky
restaurants you pay a high
price for lamb kebabs which
are simply tender pieces of
lamb broiled over a spit, as
they do in Arabia and some
parts of southern Europe. Then
there is the barbecued lamb
which they have in Latin Amer-
ica; the exotic lamb curry of India;
the Italian roast lamb and
spaghetti; even the Irish lamb
stew is a dish to luxuriate in.
It is properly made.""And in Scandinavia they
have a very good dish of cabbage
leaves stuffed with lamb,"
suggested. "Let's get some plain
chopped lamb and have that for
dinner. It's a good dish to help
beat the food bill."

Dinner

Grape Fruit Cocktail
Stuffed Cabbage Rolls
Tomato Sauce
Hollywood Beets
Paralised Potatoes
Dark Bread • Butter or
Margarine
Spiced Pumpkin Custard
Coffee or Tea • Milk (children)All measurements are level
Recipe: Serves Four

Stuffed Cabbage Rolls

Pull off the wilted outside
leaves from a head of cabbage.
Then cut off 12 large outer
leaves. Rinse in salt water and
roll 3 min. Do not break these
leaves, as they are to be stuffed
and rolled.
Next combine 1 lb. chopped
lamb; 1/2 cup brown rice; 1/2 cup
soft bread crumbs; 1 egg or the
equivalent of reconstituted dried
egg; 1 medium-sized onion, cut
in 1/2 c. left-over gravy; tomato
sauce or sour cream; salt; and
1/2 tsp. salt and 1/4 tsp. pepper.
Place a heaping spoonful of this
mixture in the centre of eachcabbage leaf. Roll up and fasten
with tooth picks.Place the cabbage rolls, fold
side down, in a heavy sauce
pan; pour in 1 c. water mixed
with 2 tsp. tomato paste.
Cover closely and simmer 45
min. If necessary add a little
more water. Serve with a sauce
made by adding to the liquid in
the pan 1 tin tomato sauce.

Hollywood Beets

To 3 c. sliced cooked or tin-
ned beets, add 1/2 tsp. butter
or margarine, 1/2 c. orange
juice, 1 tsp. lemon juice and a
little salt and pepper. Cover
and heat slowly. If you buy
beets with fresh leaves, save
and cook them, for they are
"tops" in Vitamin A.Beet Greens: Cut off and
thoroughly wash the beet tops.
Cut the stems in half inch
lengths; shred the leaves. Melt
1/2 tsp. butter or margarine in
a heavy sauce pan; add 1/2 tsp.
sugar, 1/2 tsp. minced onion;
saute 3 min. Add the beet
stems and leaves. Stir into the
butter, cover closely and slow
cook until tender without add-
ing any water, about 20 min.
Serve in a vegetable dish; with
the sliced cooked beets, on top.
Garnish with small lemon
wedges.

Spiced Pumpkin Custard

Combine 2 c. thickened sifted
pumpkin, 2 c. milk, 2 tsp.
melted butter or margarine, 1
c. fine stale bread crumbs, 1 tsp.
cinnamon, 1/2 tsp. ground clove
nutmeg, 1/2 tsp. nutmeg, 1/2 tsp.
you have it. Beat and add the
yolks of 2 eggs, 1/2 c. brown
sugar and 1/2 tsp. salt. Beat the
egg whites stiff and fold in.
Transfer to a buttered 3-pt.
baking dish. Top with coarse
bread crumbs mixed with a little
melted butter, dust with 1
tsp. brown sugar. Bake in a
slow oven, 325° to 350° F. until
firm in the centre and brown
on top, from 45 min. to an hour.
Serve warm with maple syrup
or cream. Fruit sauce may be
used with sweetened whipped cream
leaves. Rinse in salt water and
roll 3 min. Do not break these
leaves, as they are to be stuffed
and rolled.
Next combine 1 lb. chopped
lamb; 1/2 cup brown rice; 1/2 cup
soft bread crumbs; 1 egg or the
equivalent of reconstituted dried
egg; 1 medium-sized onion, cut
in 1/2 c. left-over gravy; tomato
sauce or sour cream; salt; and
1/2 tsp. salt and 1/4 tsp. pepper.
Place a heaping spoonful of this
mixture in the centre of each

WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



FLEEING REFUGEES—Always present in Shanghai, confusion is now worse than ever. Homeless wanderers carry what they can and dodge vehicles loaded with baggage and household goods, as they rush in and out of the city in a never-ending search for the safety which daily becomes harder to find.



GRAPE TIME—Actress Beverly Mitchell, in Hollywood, poses as a "Goddess of the Grape." Well, grapes can help to make a fancy costume complete.



THE LATEST THING—Early pedestrians on New York's Fifth Avenue view the first demonstration of a new machine to scrub pavements. It can also be adjusted for snow removal and if business establishments approve the method, the service will be extended.



GETTING EVEN—The Italians are now evening an old score with Americans, who wrote many letters to Italy urging Italians not to vote Communist in 1948. Here's Renata Bruni, in Rome, checking some of the 450,000 postcards to President Truman in which Italians ask for the return of their colonies.



UNUSUAL PRESENT—President Truman recently received a unique birthday present. Miss Dolores Fay Mattison of Englewood, Colorado, displays the hand-embroidered silk she made for him. It's a replica of his home in Independence, Missouri.



IT MUST BE THE HEAT—George Morgan has been an attendant at the Island Alligator Farm in St. Augustine, Florida, for 18 years. He ought to know if it's safe to offer this century-old alligator that ice cream cone. Seems like fancy eating.



GOOD-BYE—When she sailed from New York on the Queen Mary, actress Jane Wyman looked pretty and happy. She is to have a brief holiday in England before making a new film for Director Alfred Hitchcock.



YOUNG EDISON—Rachi Akimoto, 12, has shown considerable inventiveness in Tokyo. Three years ago he built his own radio set, and he has now filed a patent for a new type of radio tube and coil binding. He is working on a new invention in his home workshop.



HEY, YOU—Arriving New York Harbour, Torbjornsen, four, of Hellerup, Denmark, tries to reassure his shipmate, a fire engine, spanned in Germany. Torbjorn arrived with his mother, on his way to Chicago to join his father.

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"Won't be a minute, sarge—just looking for me hideous, sloppy piece of cloth, if I may quote my M.P."

London Express Service

Sitting on the Fence . . . by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

ACCORDING to an official statement issued by the sweethearts of the Kremlin, the title Hero of Socialist Labour, the Order of the Red Banner, and the Order of Lenin will be awarded to Russian farmers for being good boys in the cattle-breeding and pig and poultry-rearing lark.

In most countries medals are awarded only for active service in various theatres of war, orders and decorations for distinguished service or personal gallantry in any one of those theatres, providing the personal gallantry is observed in action by the right people.

Exceptions are awards of encouragement badges to Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and Brownies.

As the Russian farmers will not be on active service in the military sense, the title "Hero of Socialist Labour" strikes an odd note in Western ears.

Brownie lore

IF any British Government was stupid enough to award a similar title to British farmers, their big red faces would go purple with embarrassment, and every rustic tavern would echo with derisive laughter.

It would, therefore, appear as plain as the nose on Molotov's face that either the Communists, like the Fascists and Nazis, are hopelessly insane, or that the Russian peasants are incredibly simple creatures; the perfect victims for cynical exploitation.

For all that is known of them, except through the writings of Russian authors now dead, they may never progress beyond the mental age of a British Brownie, blushing with pride because the troop leader has awarded her a badge for being the best girl at Brownie lore.

Your Uncle Natkins, always a child at heart, thinks it a pity that the British people are not simple, too.

But for their feeble laughter they might live like little children under the paternal guidance of Communist Daddy Horner, or Communist Daddy Politt, or even Daddy Palme Dutt, who seems to be the daddy of them all, receiving rewards and punishments according to their behaviour.

In the absence of such blessings you shall live for a few minutes under the paternal guidance of Uncle Natkins, who, because he loves you all so much, has thought up some awards for the good and clever children entrusted to his care.

Heaped with honours

WHAT awards shall Uncle Natkins give to the good and clever children under his care?

His favourite child, Sir Waldron Smithers, shall be heaped with honours.

He shall be Hero of the Mother of Parliaments for asking the maddest questions; the only madhouse not entirely controlled by the Ministry of Health.

He shall get the Order of the Dood Pan, the Banner of Sublime Foolery, and Gubbins Award for Glorious Non-sense.

If he can think of anything else he would like he can have that, too.

He is one of the few men who have ever made his uncle laugh at the printed word (see parliament reports), and his uncle is probably the only man in the country who believes he is doing it all on purpose. For a laugh, like the professional comedians.

Tattered Banner

FOLLOWING in the footsteps of other totalitarian uncles, wicked and otherwise, Uncle Natkins will begin by awarding some medals to himself.

As he has no desire for military glory, unlike other all-powerful, comic uncles who give themselves the rank of field-marshal before they know the duties of a lance-corporal, he will, first of all, make himself Hero of the Island Revenue for

Mr Bloodsucker, the income-tax collector, shall have the Order of the Pen Pal for writing 305 letters a year to his uncle, and the anonymous genius at the Island Revenue

NANCY Suspended Animation

By Ernie Bushmiller

Today I take my first lesson in wire-walking

OH-OH—A BLACK CAT

SCRAM—YOU MAKE ME NERVOUS

When there's bif I needn't use my fist!

The MY SIDE OF LIFE CHAPMAN PINCHER Column...

FOR five years surgeons have wagged warning fingers at venture-some doctors trying a new drug on patients "whose proper place was on the operating table." Now the argument has ended—in victory for those who rate the scalpel as a last resort.

To see what this means to thousands of sick people, consider the case of the 28-year-old wife who was sure she was going to die.

When Dr Louis Laurent saw her at the West London Hospital his diagnosis was definite. The terrifying palpitations, the excitability, the weight-loss, all pointed to thyroid poisoning.

The thyroid gland, which should steady the release of energy, was overworking like a thermostat set too high. Without treatment the woman would reduce herself to a nervous shadow, always worn-out through sleeplessness, yet relentlessly driven to over-exertion by excess energy.

Five years ago the only sure remedy for this disturbingly common complaint lay in the surgeon's hand. Removing part of the thyroid from its site in the neck would curb its activity.

But now there was this new drug called thiouracil, which in some strange way dampened the over-active thyroid down.

To test an erring thermostat makes better sense than taking away part of its mechanism. So Dr Laurent decided to try the drug.

On three aspirin-sized tablets a day his pretty patient rapidly recovered. Within a month there were no more peaks in the pulse-chart over her bed. Her weight increased. Her temperament improved. She went home happy—and unscarred.

So many more successful cases have been reported that thiouracil has supplanted surgery as the treatment of choice for thyroid poisoning.

Chief credit for this major advance must go to Dr E. B. Astwood, the American researcher, who first used the drug.

But without persistence of practising physicians like Laurent thiouracil would never have reached the shelves of the G.P.'s dispensary.

Girls serving behind the bars in railway buffets will become Railway Heroines if they give you a cup of coffee when you ask for tea.

They will be given a medal if they can tell the difference. Girls observed to smile at one tired traveller once in a year will be awarded a clasp to their medal and be mentioned in despatches.

Medals will be awarded to waiters who do not look malicious as they cross everything off the menu but the macaroni cheese; also to those who are able to compose their expressions so to conceal a hope that even that will poison you.

—(London Express Service)

ONIONS IN NEST

There's a touch of Surrealism about the game, a new breeding round Britain's coasts. Decorative items flake and restore them to the flour.

The flakes are too few and small to discolour flour. So when Strachey gives the green signal for the white loaf, critics should be silenced all round.

WANT A CHANGE?

From what the atom-bomb men tell me, it seems that a 50-year-old human body that has had five new handles and five new heads. They suspect that every particle making up the body is replaced at least once in every ten years. So the heart you lose at 17 is not the heart you lose at 27.

The evidence comes from experiments in which the scientists are their own guinea-pigs. They take harmless radioactive drinks; then give themselves a daily once-over with an atom-ray detector.

Noting how long different tissues stay radioactive gives a clue to how long they last.

AND LASTLY...

Latest in artificial baits for pike fishing is a robot rubber frog suitably hooked and propelled through the water by an electric battery.

It will catch more fish than fish.

—(London Express Service)

MAJOR-GENERAL Herman Feldman, of the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps, has been telling Congress he has to stock 150 different sizes and shapes of army boots, 100 of them standard.

A Congressional statistician maintains that the U.S. soldier's chance of getting boots that really fit is 25 times better than that the foot-slogger in the Red Army enjoys.

The British Tommy is better off than Ivan, but not so pampered as the G.I. The British stock only full sizes in three widths, a total of 24 varieties.

—(London Express Service)

FREDERICK COOK'S CABLE-LETTER:

Army wives have too many maids

New York. Mr Charles F. Kettering, famous inventor, research consultant and director of General Motors Corporation, is the reason, says Mr Kettering, is that they were "oppressed" by multi-millionaire fathers and mothers.

Doctors agree with Mr Kettering, that the rich man is not to be envied.

LOWER down the social scale, pollsters find that most American men-about-the-house wash the dishes.

Questions to husbands and wives reveal that 68 percent of the husbands help with the housework. Almost 70 percent of those holding a college degree do so, as against only 59 percent of those who went to elementary schools.

Almost half the men help to some extent with the cooking. More than six out of ten help with the dishes, though only half admit that they do so regularly. Twelve percent gloomily confess that they always wash the dishes.

THE U.S. Government have now ruled that Persian lamb need not come from Persia.

USA
7-8

Calwell Calls Gamboa Case A Tokyo Stunt

ISSUE MAY BE TAKEN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Canberra, May 24.—Mr Arthur A. Calwell, Australian Immigration Minister, commenting after publication of United Press George McCadden's exclusive interview in connection with the Gamboa case, said today that the "Gamboa case is a Tokyo hatched stunt."

Mr Calwell added: "I waited until the Philippines Parliament disposed of the case before giving McCadden an exclusive interview. I wanted to tell the United States the true story by one of its own correspondents. General MacArthur's name was improperly used in the case."

POCKET CARTOON



"If you make ME, there's no export restriction!"
London Express Service

Activity On The Burma Border

Precautions Against Chinese Guerrillas

Rangoon, May 24.—Tighter precautions have been taken, along the Chinese-Burmese border because of large-scale Chinese guerrilla activity, the Burma Army Radio announced tonight.

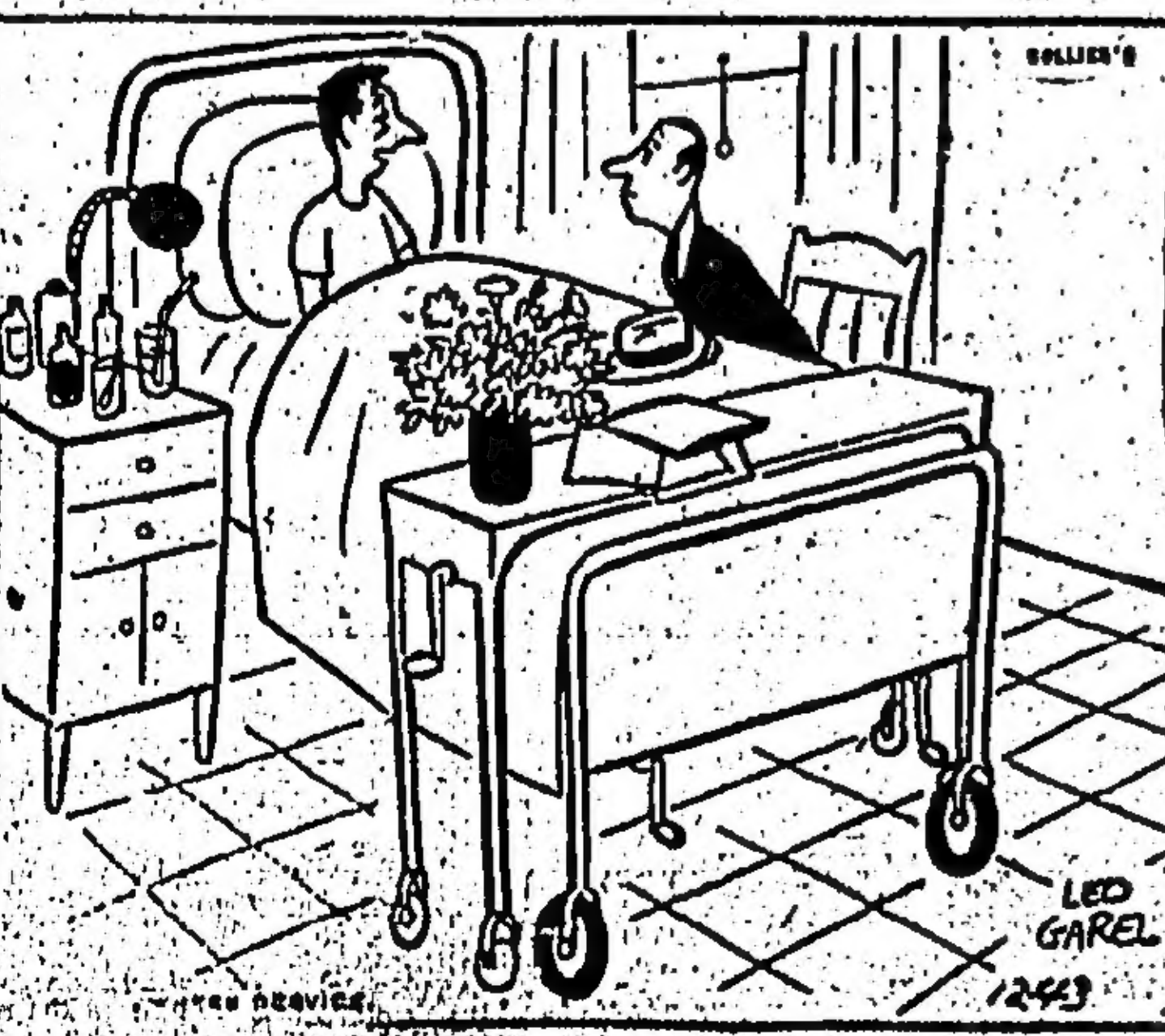
The guerrillas were approaching Sadoon 30 miles east of Myittha, the State capital of the Kachin, the Radio said. About 1,000 Chinese Communists were active in villages near the Upper Burma district of Bhamo.

Tonight's communique by the Burmese Army Headquarters said that combined rebel forces—army deserters, White Band PVOs and Communists—were massing near Bassein, the irrawaddy port 90 miles west of Rangoon.

Government forces had captured Ngapula, a town south of Bassein, without resistance and rebel concentrations in the area were heavily bombed, the communique added.

North of Rangoon, the Karens were moving east from Naung-U, before a Government advance along the railway.

The North Burma Army Headquarters at Meiktila had been reinforced because of large-scale rebel activity in the area, the communique said. Three hundred rebels were said to be concentrated in a Buddhist monastery at Tadua, 60 miles north of Meiktila.—Reuter.



"Bill, go downstairs to the phone booth, call this place, ask them how I'm doing and come back and tell me, will you?"
L.D. GAREL 1242



First British refugees from Communist-ruled Shanghai have arrived in Britain. After a 10,000 mile air trip which began in China and lasted nine days, 47-year-old Richard Somers and his family landed safely in Paris before coming on to London by train. Pictured here, left to right, are: Robert Mitchell, 24, his stepfather, Richard Somers; his twin sister, Patricia; and in the arms of his wife, Irene, his two-month-old son, Richard.—London Express Service.

Lord Beaverbrook's Seventy Today

BY W. J. BROWN, MP

"The days of a man upon the earth," says the Good Book, "are three score years and ten." Today Lord Beaverbrook reaches his normal allotted span.

But when the other day someone telegraphed wishes that he might live to be 90, Beaverbrook was slightly annoyed. Ninety wasn't enough.

All his life Beaverbrook has been "a cat that walks alone." And a cat has nine lives.

Beaverbrook feels that on this basis he has several more to come. So far he's had only three or four.

He hopes, I suspect, to do much more mischief among the politically orthodox before he dies, and to give his foes no rest yet awhile.

First, finance. Starting with selling newspapers on the streets, by the time he was 30 Beaverbrook was a millionaire. He carried through some of the biggest financial transactions of the Canada of his youth.

The Cement Industry of Canada and the great Steel Company of Canada remain today monuments to his work in this field.

Second, politics. Coming to England he entered Parliament at his first attempt in 1910. Within a short time he had equipped the Conservative Party with a new leader.

Within six years he had brought down the Government and provided Britain with a new Prime Minister.

When young Max Aitken (as he then was) entered the House and teamed up with another Scots Canadian, Bonar Law, no-one thought of the latter as a possible Conservative Party leader. Leadership would go, it was generally accepted, to Austen Chamberlain or Walter Long.

But Max Aitken created a situation in which the election of either would have split the party, and the right moment produced the modest, unexciting Bonar Law as a candidate on whom all could agree.

HISTORY REPEATS

Years later Aitken became the leader of the Labour Party, and so ultimately Prime Minister, because of a similar contest between Morrison and Greenwood.

When the weakness of Asquith's leadership became apparent during the First World War it was Max Aitken, repeating the tactics of his Canadian "merger" who brought together the combination which would drop him and installed Lloyd George.

Bonar Law became the leader of the House, and Aitken became the first Lord Beaverbrook, a rich and politically prominent. Beaverbrook began his third life in the Press.

Lord Northcliffe's Daily Mail, Street's reigning monarch, warned "Go away, young man. You'll lose all your money."

Beaverbrook didn't go. He bought the Daily Express, which was bankrupt without premises, printed on a third plan, and with a circulation of 200,000.

Beaverbrook learned journalism and newspaper management the hard way, while working.

A GREAT DAY

It was a great day when the Express reached 3,000,000 circulation. It was another when it outstripped the Daily Mail, and when the circulation of the Daily Express is more than 4,000,000.

Pressing on, Beaverbrook bought the Evening Standard and founded the Sunday Express, bringing both to the top of their respective classes.

He proved himself the most acute journalist and shrewdest newspaper manager in Britain.

More than hiring, he made journalists. An astonishing proportion of the leading figures in Fleet Street today came from the Beaverbrook stable.

Beaverbrook's father was a Scots-Canadian Presbyterian Minister. And fundamentally Beaverbrook is an evangelist and crusader.

With his money, political influence and the press, Beaverbrook sought to impose on the Conservative Party policies which he regarded as vital for Britain.

He is no more a Conservative than a Socialist. But, as against the Liberal "Little Englanders" of the day, and a Labour Party dominated by the town proletariat, the Conservative Party seemed the better bet for a policy whose conversion was the development of Empire, resources and collaboration of the ties between the Dominions and the Mother Country.

AN EMPIRE MAN

Canada made Beaverbrook an Empire man. His Scotch farm labourer ancestry gave him a passionate interest in agriculture.

His temperament made him prefer the gospel of hard work and high wages to that which proposed that the Empire should lean for everything on "the State."

But the Conservative mind distrusts even the State. It has been even Churchill to the boom of the family. It distrusts young men in a hurry.

"The Party wanted Beaverbrook's support but feared his policies. It sometimes opposed them. It sometimes paid lip service to them and then betrayed them."

"Relations were never easy. Sometimes they broke. Once in a while, the Tories turned Beaverbrook out of the Carlton Club."



LORD BEAVERBROOK

For 15 years Beaverbrook pursued his crusade. He made the House of Lords a sounding board for it. His newspapers proclaimed it. He was elected Parliamentary candidate for support for it. And he took to the platform, addressing great meetings all over the country.

ORATORY AND WIT

On the platform he developed an astonishing power of oratory and ready wit.

He failed to impose his policies on the Tory party or bring down Baldwin. He was before his time.

Another German assault and blockade were necessary to teach the British that the one dependable thing in an uncertain world was the support of their fellow countrymen, overseas, and that it was a folly for this island to allow itself to be too dependent on imported food.

When the Second World War came and Churchill became Prime Minister, Britain stood in deadly peril. Invasion, after the fall of Holland, Belgium, and France, seemed inevitable and there was a grip on all men's hearts.

Churchill set Beaverbrook the task of producing fighter planes to combat the aerial bombardment which it was plain would precede the invasion.

As Minister of Aircraft Production he toiled night and day with frenetic energy.

He wheedled, bullied, pleaded and prayed. He ran his own private war, raiding the Ministries for men and materials for this supremely urgent task. When the British broke the power of Goering's bomber force, saved Britain from invasion.

SAVED BRITAIN

At the end of that battle, there were only 17 fighters in reserve. Under providence and Churchill, who backed him through thick and thin, Beaverbrook's work had saved Britain from her almost certain fate.

The immediate danger past, Beaverbrook set to work to produce bombers to later repay a hundred-fold what the German Air Force had done to Britain. Then, with victory in sight, he sought his reward.

Now, at 70, he has "retired." That means that the daily food of combat, criticism and inspiration now comes not from "Leatherhead" but from Canada, Jamaica, the Bahamas or wherever his restless mind, or recurrent asthma drive him.

His retirement is twice as strenuous as most people's work. He has been an astonishing career. His friends and he himself must have done more. But there are weaknesses in his extraordinary equipment. Always he has been a man who would use his wit to sustain first place; you must endure much poverty. He cannot stand boredom. You must make him feel that he is in the thick of it. He must give up the idea of play, especially travel.

When Lloyd George became Prime Minister he offered Beaverbrook office. But the office was minor and Beaverbrook, in anger and disappointment at not being offered the Board of Trade, practically refused to take it.

It was that foolish mistake which landed him in the House of Lords, for which he was not suited, and which cut him off from the finest source of power, the House of Commons.

Another weakness in his temperament was disclosed in his long struggle with Baldwin. He was at the stage where he could have delivered the knock-out blow, but through his lack of tenacity he missed the opportunity of attaining political power which never returned.

Finally, when in 1942 he had an overwhelming desire to resign from the Churchill Government he never stayed on and became very difficult, sustaining rough handling from Deakin in consequence.

All three episodes point to a man who suffers from instability which has been a great liability to him and prevented him from attaining supreme power.

HE HAS DEFECTS

The truth is that he has defects in his great qualities. His vivaciousness which will make him enthusiastic about one thing will lead him to drop it for something more interesting if it comes along. His impulsiveness sometimes ride him.

Once he entered racing he got up studs and trained horses. One day, feeling he was "dissatisfied" with a particular horse, the whole thing was dropped. It cost him fortune. That day at Leatherhead he was giving horses away.

He suffers from asthma. Doctors should stop trying to cure it. Asthma is his protective mechanism and should not be tampered with. His excuse for escaping to the sunshine he loves.

Sometimes he is "in" his newspapers. Then the staffs are on tenterhooks. Sometimes he is "out," blandly explaining that he doesn't interfere with his editors. His present passion is the University of New Brunswick, the Canadian Province from which he came.

But for how long? Long enough, I guess, to shake that staid institution to its foundations.

He is entirely devoid of rancour, though capable of blazing anger. One conciliatory word to him and he is ready to change his mind.

DON'T SEEK PEACE

This characteristic has often been the subject of advice. He lacks the bump of reverence demanded by established institutions and is a rebel against all alien to the pinch of incense which purchases peace.

How shall I complete this sketch of a man I have loved since I first met him 22 years ago at a meeting in the Mills Road? How convey some idea of the restless energy, the Bulls' Bay engine in an Austin Seven body? How describe his incredible memory for persons, places and things, his never-sated curiosity about life and men and his power of stimulating the imaginations and energies of others? How to characterize this human dynamo at which so many men have charged their personal batteries? How to describe his fascinating conversation, abounding generosity, wit—almost feminine—understanding, uproarious sense of fun, kindness in another's trouble and courage in his own?

It is difficult to imprison these things in print.

A HYMN AT HOME

The other evening in his Leatherhead home I stood with him before the piano. We were singing a hymn.

Threescore and ten years do sum up our days and the years we see; and if by seasons of our life we are our fourscore years be yet doth the strength of such old men but pain and labour need for it is soon cut off and we fly hence and far remove.

"Do not think the rest of Lord Beaverbrook's days will rain and labour prove" except for his newspaper staffs and political work, and his friends.

The coming years shall rest lightly upon him and that many will come and go before he has seen them. The time comes for him to go, alone and far remove.

Mr Piratin Queries Malaya's War Damage Compensation

London, May 24.—Mr Philip Piratin, Communist, asked in the House of Commons today why the Government proposed to double the grant of Malaya from £10,000,000 to £20,000,000 "for war damage."

He inquired if this proposal would come before Parliament for approval before it operated.

He also wanted to know why "this burden on the taxpayer had been imposed in view of the substantial profits made by the tin and rubber companies in Malaya."

The Colonial Secretary, Mr Arthur Creech Jones, replied that the answer to the first two parts of the question were given in his announcement last Friday (when he announced the increase in the grant).

"The third part of the question is based on a misunderstanding of the war damage compensation scheme which is now being considered in Malaya," Mr Creech Jones said.

"The scheme is designed to assist in the rehabilitation of the Malayan economy as a whole: as can be seen from the correspondence with the Malayan Government."—Reuter.

FRONTIER OPENED

Damascus, May 24.—The Syrian-Lebanese frontier was re-opened today after 24 hours because a Syrian officer and three soldiers were detained in the Lebanon accused of the murder of a pro-Jewish spy.

Syrian and Lebanese representatives are to meet on the frontier to negotiate.—Reuter.

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